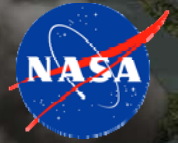


National Aeronautics and Space Administration



5...4...3...2...1...

# SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM

## SLS Capabilities

for the Mirror Technology Days Workshop  
November 20, 2014

**Angie Jackman**  
SLS Payload Integration

# Building Blocks for Pioneering Deep Space

U.S. companies provide affordable access to low Earth orbit

Mastering the fundamentals aboard the International Space Station

The next step: traveling beyond low-Earth orbit with the Space Launch System rocket and Orion crew capsule

Pushing the boundaries in cis-lunar space

Developing planetary independence by exploring Mars, its moons, and other deep space destinations

*Missions: 6 to 12 months  
Return: hours*

*Missions: 1 month up to 12 months  
Return: days*

*Missions: 2 to 3 years  
Return: months*

Earth Reliant

Proving Ground

Earth Independent



# Recent Progress



**Launch Vehicle Stage Adapter:** Contract awarded in February 2014.

**Avionics:** Avionics “first light” marked in January 2014; currently testing most powerful flight system computer processor ever.



**Boosters:** Forward Skirt test completed May 2014; preparations underway for QM-1.

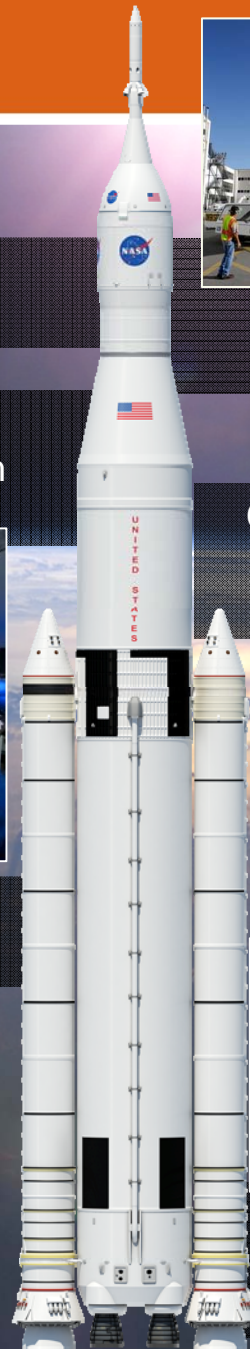


**MPCV-to-Stage Adapter:** First flight hardware currently in Florida for Exploration Flight Test-1 in Fall 2014.

**Core Stage:** Initial confidence barrels and domes completed; Vertical Assembly Center activation completed in Sept. 2014.

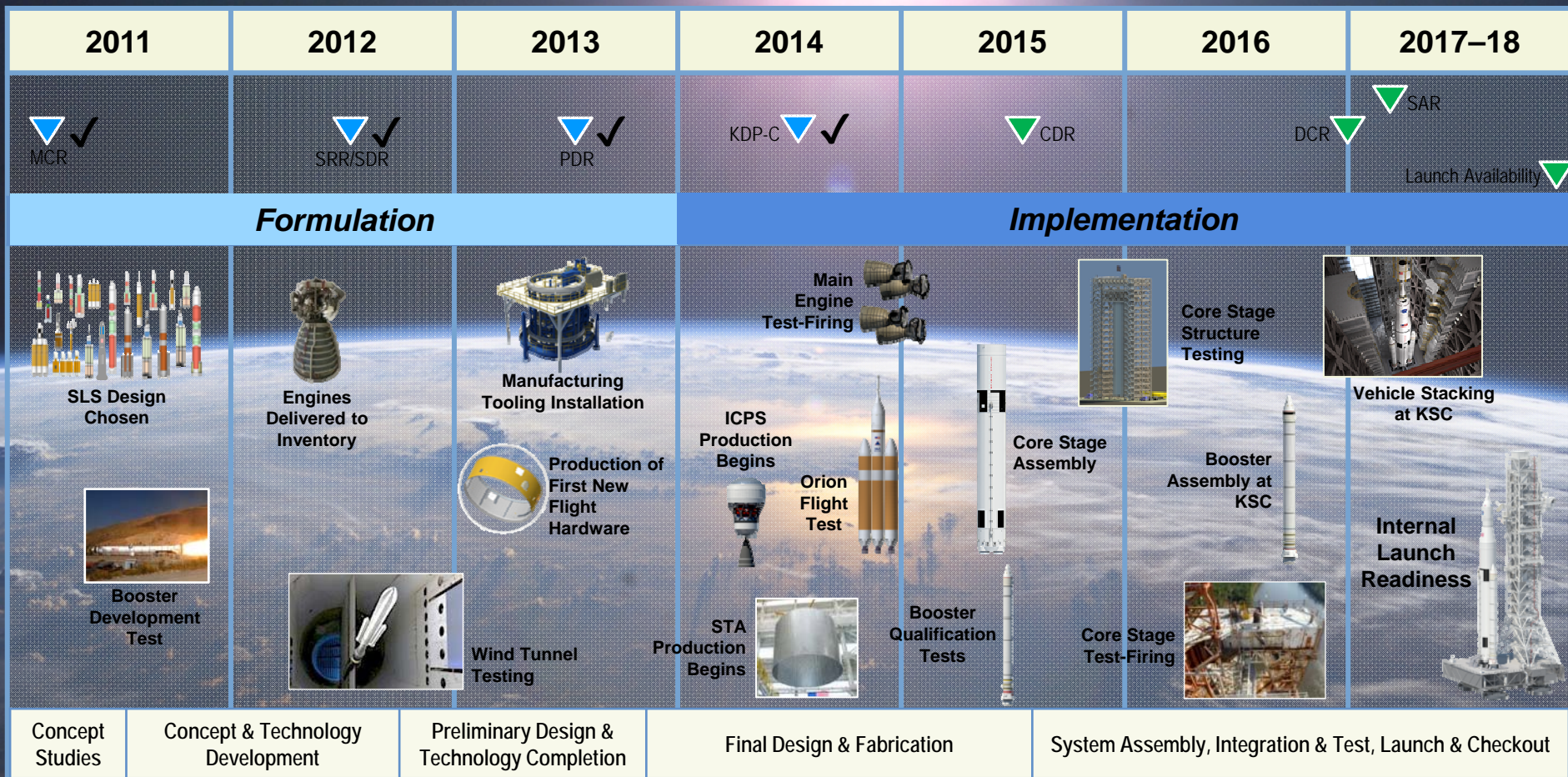


**Engines:** Preparing for RS-25 testing at Stennis Space Center; renovations underway to B-2 stand.





# SLS Milestones Schedule



MCR: Mission Concept Review

CDR: Critical Design Review

SRR: System Requirements Review

DCR: Design Certification Review

SDR: System Definition Review

SAR: System Acceptance Review

PDR: Preliminary Design Review

FRR: Flight Readiness Review

KDP-C: Key Decision Point






## SLS Enables Options for Mars Exploration



### Delta-V

Enables Mars missions; enables faster transits for robotic science and precursor missions



### Mass

Enables efficient assembly of massive systems with minimum number of launches, reducing complexity and risk



### Volume

Provides the capacity needed for launch of large systems needed for proving ground missions and human exploration of Mars; enables new concepts for robotic science and precursor missions



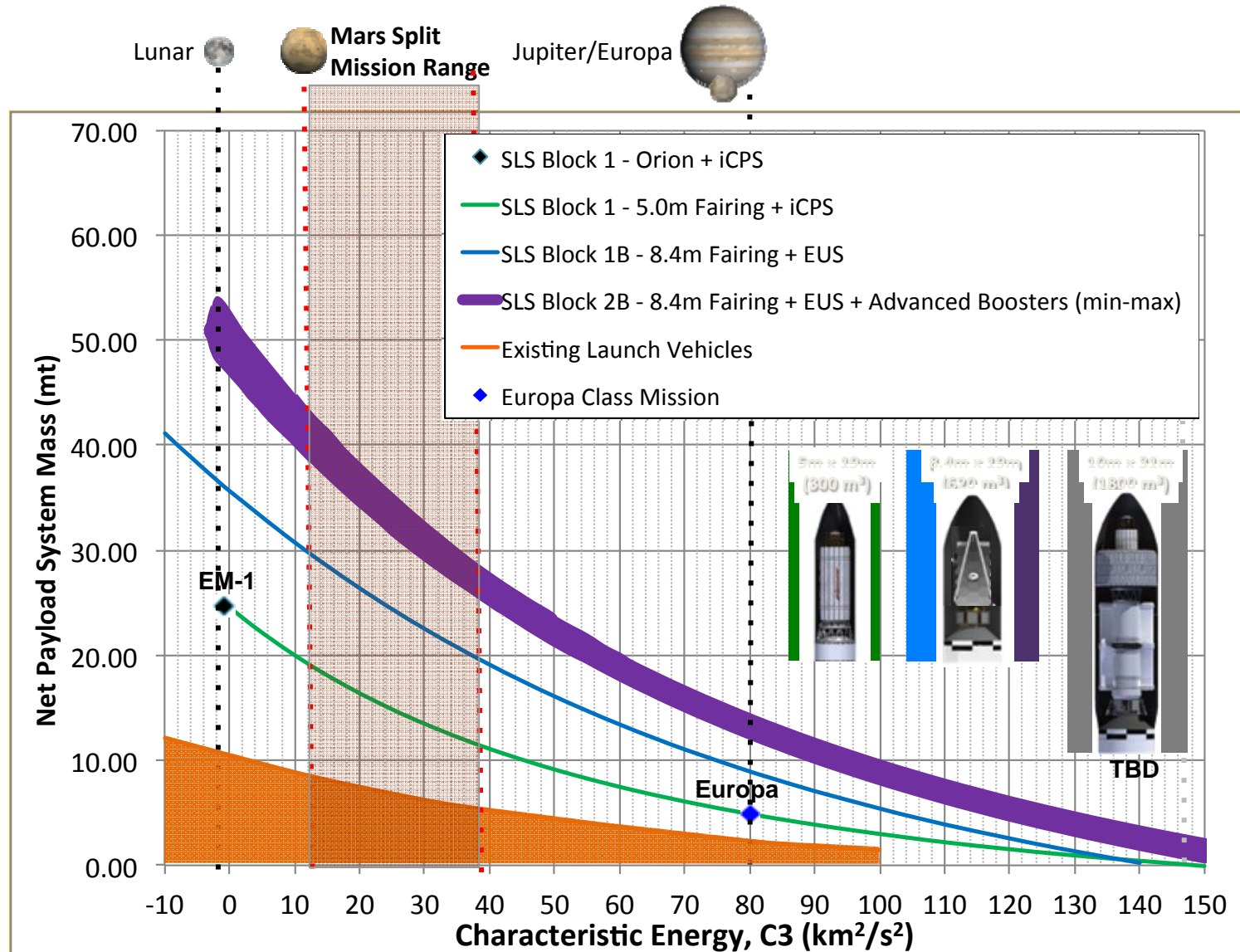
# SLS Evolutionary Approach





# SLS Characteristic Energy

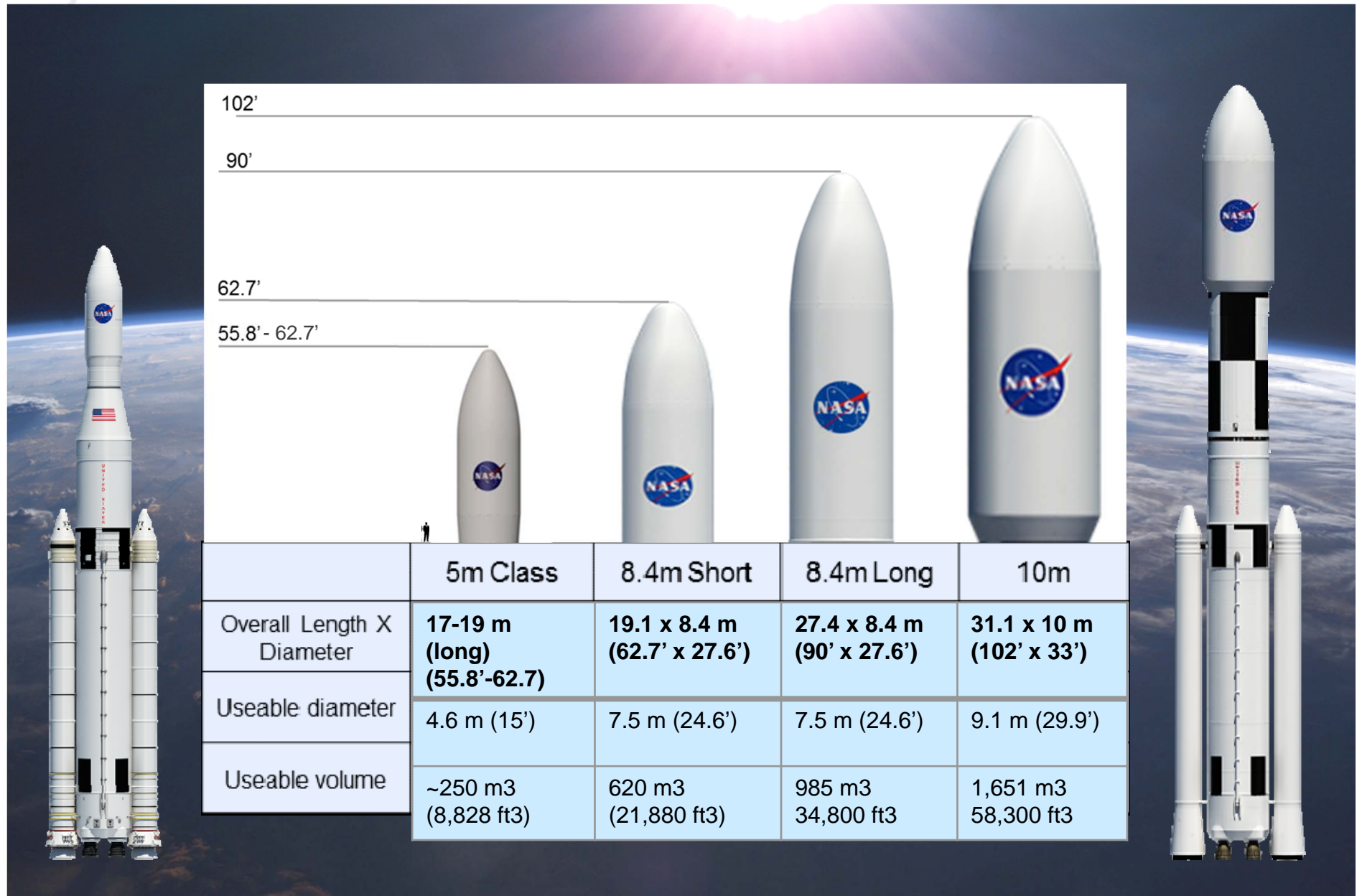
NOTIONAL – Based on current vehicle performance estimates





# SLS Payload Fairing Summary

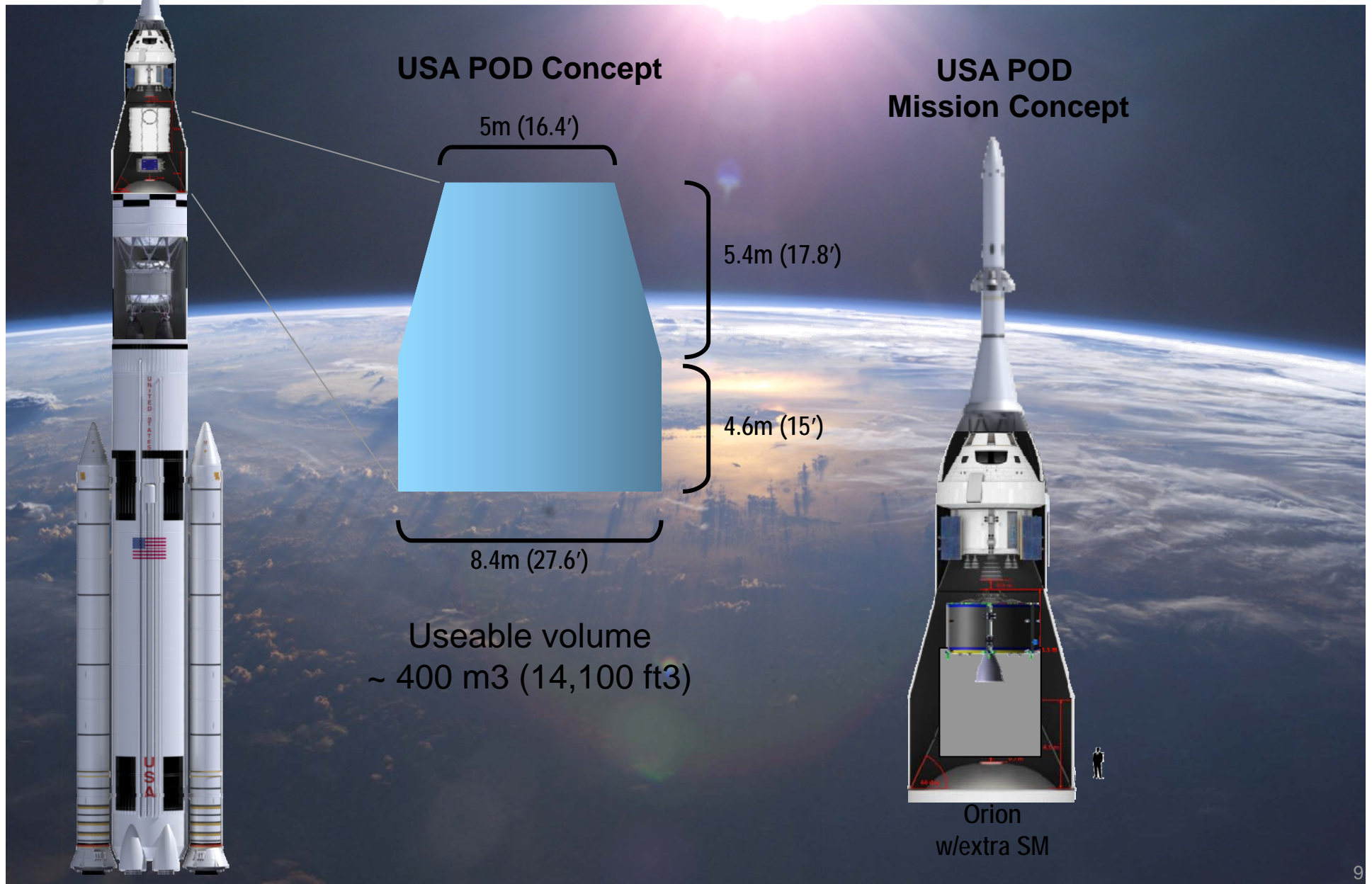
NOTIONAL – Based on current fairing concepts





# Universal Stage Adaptor and Co-Manifested Payload Capability

NOTIONAL – Based on current USA concepts





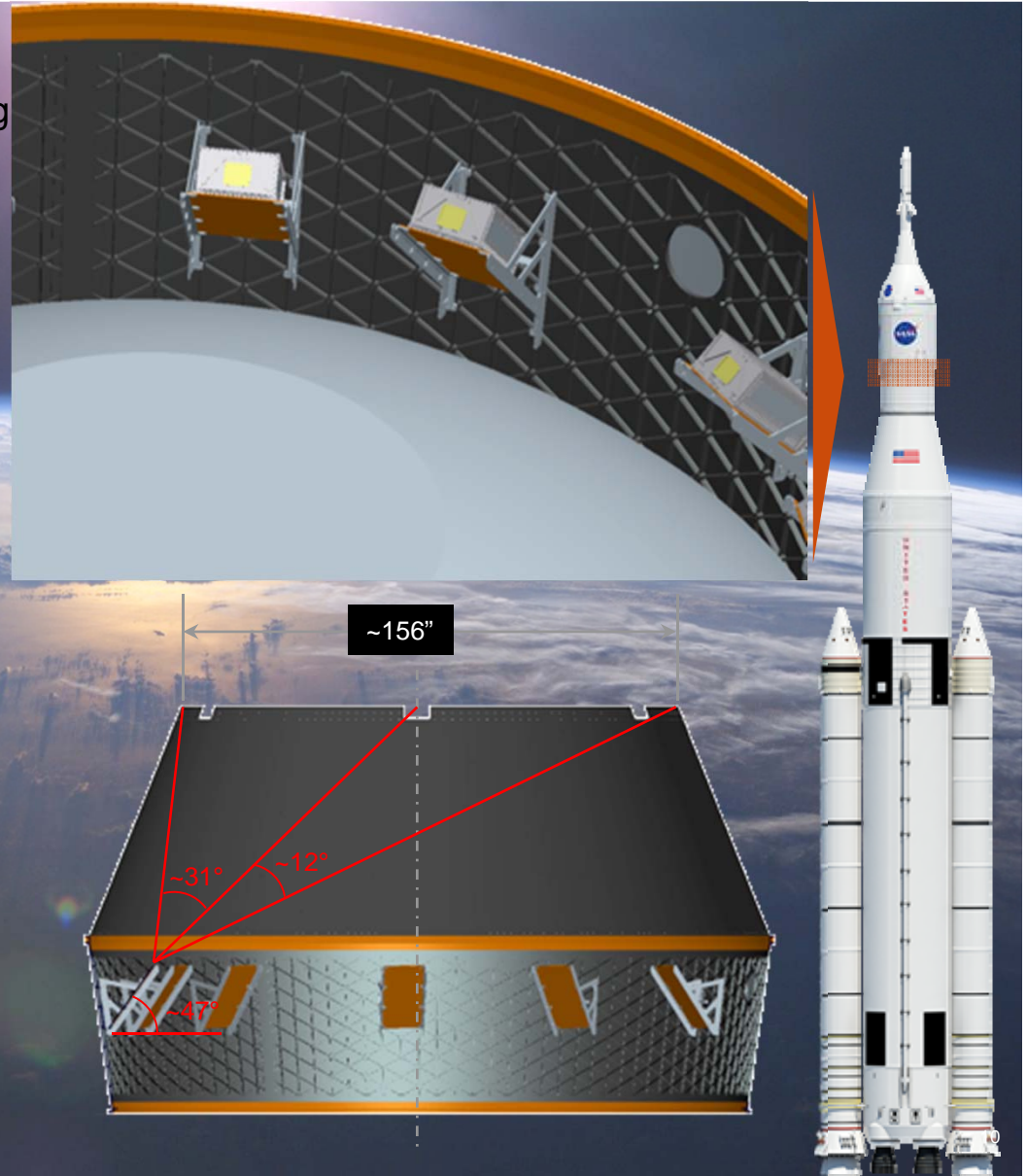
# Secondary Payload Capability Creates Unique Partnership Opportunities

- Eleven 6U/12U payload locations
- 6U volume/mass is the current standard (14 kg payload mass)
- Payloads will be “off” from roll-out through Orion separation and payload deployment
- Payload Deployment System Sequencer; payload deployment will begin with pre-loaded sequence following MPCV separation and ICPS disposal burn

Payload requirements captured in Interface Definition and Requirements Document

## Advanced Exploration Systems candidate EM-1 payloads include:

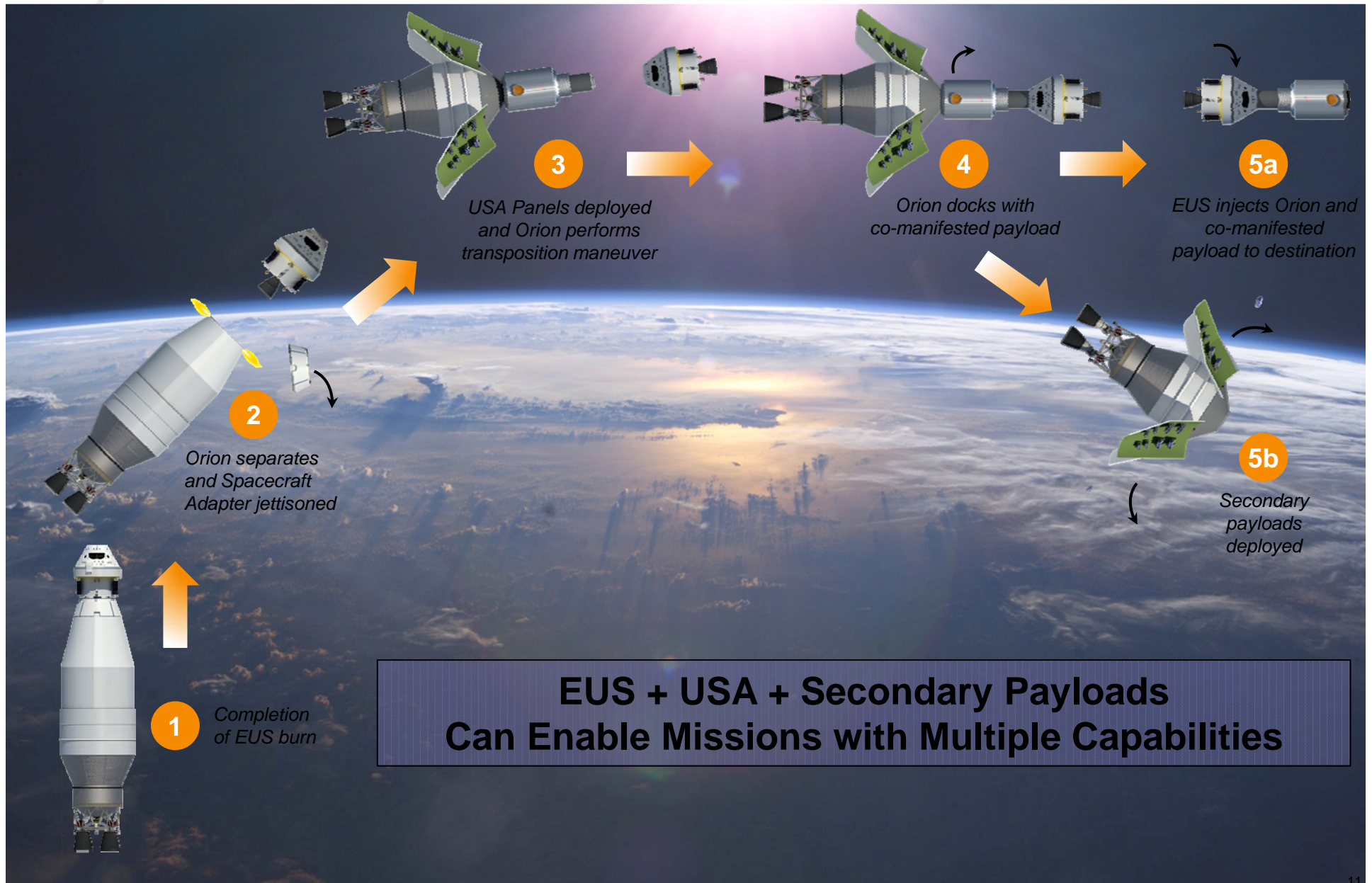
- BioSentinel: Study radiation-induced DNA damage of live organisms in cislunar space; correlate with measurements on ISS and Earth.
- Lunar Flashlight: Locate ice deposits in the moon's permanently shadowed craters
- Near Earth Asteroid (NEA) Scout: Flyby/rendezvous and characterize one NEA that is a candidate for a human mission.





# Co-Manifested Payload Operations

NOTIONAL – Based on mission concept



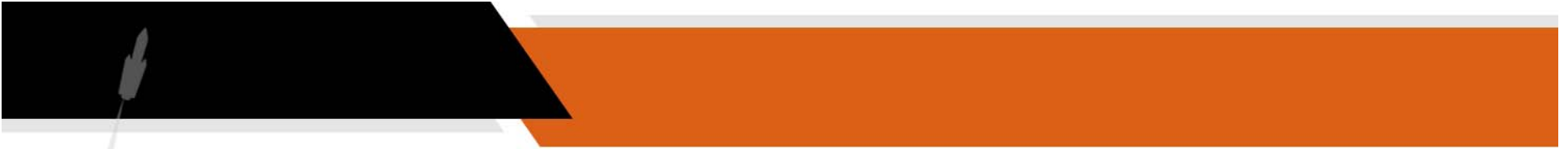


# Summary

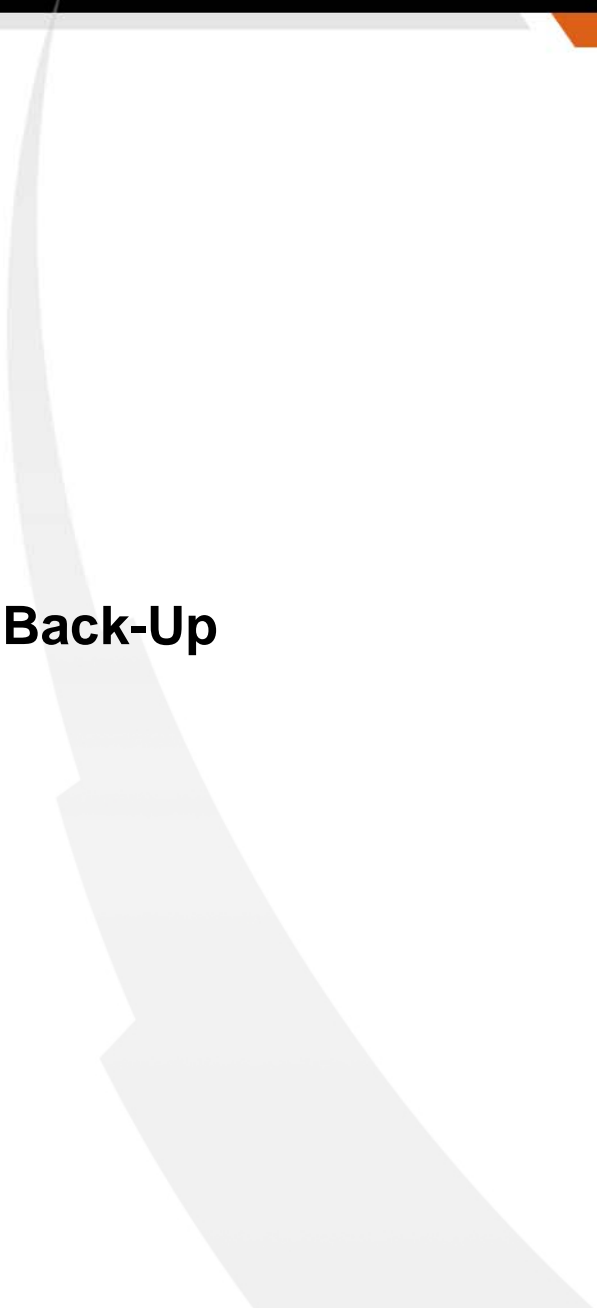
- **SLS is a building block for exploration beyond LEO**
  - Block 1 configuration enables early lunar-vicinity flight tests opportunities with highest C3
  - Evolved configurations significantly enhance lunar-vicinity capabilities and enable human missions to Mars.
- **SLS is currently on schedule for launch readiness.**
  - Agency baseline commitment completed in August 2014, proceeding to CDR.
  - Qualification and flight hardware production online representing all SLS elements.
- **SLS capabilities open options for exploration in cis-lunar space, to Mars, and beyond by reducing risks and minimizing total architecture costs**
  - **High-energy** reduces trip times
  - **Heavy-lift** capability minimizes in-space assembly
  - **Large payload volumes** with both fairings (8.4 and 10 meter) and USA allow for single-launch of outsized exploration hardware and options for co-manifesting
  - **Secondary payload capability** beyond LEO for all missions is enabling and provides partnership opportunities







**Back-Up**





# Looking Forward



Test Stand Completion

